



H. B. MASSER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE, CORNER OF CENTRE ALLEY & MARKET STREET.

A Family Newspaper—Devoted to Politics, Literature, Morality, Foreign and Domestic News, Science and the Arts, Agriculture, Markets, Amusements, &c.

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H. B. MASSER, ATTORNEY AT LAW.

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Philad. April 1, 1848—

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Our prices are much lower than the regular prices. Libraries and small parcels of books purchased. Books imported to order from London. Philadelphia, April 1, 1848—

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WM. G. MASON,
46 Chestnut St. 3rd floor above 2nd St., Philadelphia.
Engraver of BUSINESS & VISITING CARDS. Watch papers, Labels, Door plates, Seals and Stamps for Old and New. Also, a general assortment of the Fine Fancy Goods. Gold pens of every quality. Dog Collars in great variety. Engravers tools and materials.
Agency for the Manufacturer of Glaziers Diamonds.
Orders per mail (post paid) will be punctually attended to.
Philadelphia, April 1, 1848—y

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills.

Henry Masser, Sunbury.
E. J. Kaufman, Augusta township.
John H. Vine, Mt. Chalkley.
Kase & Bergstresser, Ellyburg.
Samuel Herb, Little Mahoning.
William Deppon, Jackson.
Ireland and Haynes, McEwenville.
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James Reed, Potomac.
W. G. Scott, Rockville.
W. & B. Egery, Shamokin.
Rhodes & Farrow, Snyderstown.
Amos T. Beisel, Toltusville.
Benjamin Holshue, Upper Mahoning.
John G. Renna, do.
E. L. Piper, Watsonstown.
Whole sale, at the office and general depot, 159 Race St., Philadelphia. Dec. 18, 1847—ly

NEW PIANO PORTES.

THE SUBSCRIBER HAS BEEN APPOINTED AGENT for the sale of CONRAD MEYER'S CELEBRATED PREMIUM ROSE WOOD PIANOS, at this place. These Pianos have a plain, massive and beautiful exterior finish, and, for depth of tone and elegance of workmanship, are not surpassed by any in the United States. These instruments are highly approved of by the most eminent Professors and Composers of Music in this and other cities.

For qualities of tone, touch and keeping in tune upon Concert pitch, they cannot be surpassed by either American or European Pianos. Suffice it to say that Madame Castellan, W. Y. Wallace, Vieux Temps, and his sister, the celebrated Pianist, and many others of the most distinguished performers, have given these instruments preference over all others.

They have also received the first notice of the three last Exhibitions, and the last Silver Medal by the Franklin Institute in 1843, was awarded to them, which, with other premiums from the same source, may be seen at the Ware-room No. 62 south Fourth St.

Another Silver Medal was awarded to C. Meyer, by the Franklin Institute, Oct. 1845 for the best Piano in the exhibition.

Again—at the exhibition of the Franklin Institute, Oct. 1846, the first premium and medal was awarded to C. Meyer for his Pianos, although it had been awarded at the exhibition of the year before, on the ground that he had made still greater improvements in his Instruments within the last 12 months.

Again—at the last exhibition of the Franklin Institute, 1847, another Premium was awarded to C. Meyer, for the best Piano in the exhibition. At Boston, at their last exhibition, Sept. 1847, C. Meyer received the first Silver Medal and Diploma, for the best square Piano in the exhibition. These Pianos will be sold at the manufacturer's lowest Philadelphia prices, if not something lower. Persons are requested to call and examine for themselves, at the residence of the subscriber, H. B. MASSER.

BASKET MANUFACTORY.

No. 15 South Second Street East side, below stairs, PHILADELPHIA.

HENRY COULTER.

RESPECTFULLY informs his friends and the public, that he constantly keeps on hand a large assortment of children's willow Coaches, Chairs, Cradles, market and travelling baskets, and every variety of basket work manufactured.

Country Merchants and others who wish to purchase such articles, good and cheap, would do well to call on him, as they are all manufactured by him in the best manner.
Philadelphia, June 3, 1848—ly

GEMS OF POESY.

MATRIMONIAL "ITS."

Dear Kate, since a husband your choosing,
And ask my advice as a friend,
I will give you some hints for refusing,
Which all to safe guidance will tend.

Of course, in religious pretension
Your lover not wanting will be,
I proceed then to call your attention
To symptoms of second degree.

And however, to your penetration,
These "its" vain or frivolous sound,
Let them cast more or less condemnation
On the suitor in whom they are found.

If he fire at affronts over-keenly;
If you catch him but half in a lie;
If he shirk due gratuities meanly;
Is he squire at your maid on the sly;

If he lay o'er his shoulder a fiddle,
And plays what he thinks very fine;
If inclined to a corpulent middle,
Yet loves to be asked out to dine;

If he perfume, to save himself trouble;
If he grease his long hair to excess;
If his motives appear to be double;
If at home he's untidy in dress;

If he's bilious, yet can't refuse sauces;
If his wine never stand in his glass;
If his fame is hunting and horses;
If he stare at each girl he may pass;

If a toothpick form part of his chatties;
If he finger his whiskers or hair;
If of wealthy connections he rattles,
Or friends with ten thousand a year;

If an ait of the opera gabbles;
If frequently going to town;
If in play he is given to dabble;
Or if at the races well known;

If in bed on morning's he's soaking;
Or, uh! (though 'tis common enough)
If the beast is addicted to smoking,
Or a sneaking indulgence in snuff.

BIOGRAPHY OF GENERAL CASS.

Since General Cass has become a candidate for high political station, inquiry is naturally made of his public services. The Albany Argus gives a brief biography, from which we gather the following fact:

Lewis Cass was born in 1782, at Exeter, New Hampshire, the son of a gallant and distinguished soldier of the Revolution.

He was one of the earliest pioneers in the settlement of what is now the most flourishing section of the Union. In 1806, he was elected a member of the Ohio Legislature, and drafted the law which arrested the traitorous designs of Burr, and introduced and address to Mr. Jefferson, which was unanimously adopted, expressing the attachment of the people of Ohio to the constitution of the United States, and their confidence in that illustrious man.

In 1807, he was appointed by Mr. Jefferson, marshal of Ohio.—When the war of 1812 broke out, Mr. Cass was among the volunteers who so enthusiastically rallied at the call of their country from Ohio, and was elected to the command of the third regiment. Reaching Detroit on the 4th of July, 1812, the official announcement of the declaration was then received. Of the army there assembled under Gen. Hull, Col. Cass was then the master spirit. He urged the invasion of Canada, commanded the advanced detachment, and was the first to land in the enemy's country.

He drove the British troops from their position on the river Aux Canards, near Detroit and here was shed the first blood of the war. He participated in all the events of the war on that frontier, and was a determined opponent of the disgraceful surrender of Gen. Hull at Detroit. It occurred during a brief absence on his part. On Col. Cass returning when ordered to deliver up his sword on that occasion, stung with mortification, he indignantly threw it to the earth, refusing to surrender it to the enemy. He was a Brigadier General in the army with Gen. Harrison, bore a leading and distinguished part in the defeat of the British at the battle of the Thames, and was highly commended in the official reports of Gen. Harrison. This battle terminated the war on the Northwestern frontier, and on the 9th of October, 1813, Gen. Cass was appointed by President Madison, Governor of Michigan. He was seven times nominated to the office by four successive Presidents, and seven times unanimously confirmed by the Senate, without a single representation against him from the people over whom he presided. His connection with the Indians was one of great peril and responsibility, and during that time he formed twenty-one treaties with them, and extinguished their title to nearly one hundred millions of acres, and this upon terms so just and satisfactory that no complaint was ever made by the Indians upon the subject.

In 1831, Gen. Cass entered the cabinet of Gen. Jackson, as Secretary of War. With the career and policy of that distinguished president, he was thoroughly identified. In 1836, he was appointed Minister to France. On retiring from the war department, he received a letter from Gen. Jackson, commending his whole conduct, and expressive of the highest personal regard. His first act as Minister was to secure the payment of the balance of the French indemnity. His career at the French Court was one of the most brilliant and useful that it has been the lot of any American diplomatist to pursue. His protest against the celebrated Quintuple Treaty, whose object was to guarantee the safety of the British navy, elicited a glow-

ing response in the hearts of the American people, who hailed him as the champion of the freedom of the seas and of the rights of the American citizens. On receiving the news of the ratification of the Ashburton Treaty in 1842, which indirectly conceded the right of search assumed by the British, Gen. Cass resigned and returned home. The strongest evidence of his wide-spread popularity may be found in the fact, that without any exertion on the part of him or his friends and spontaneously, as it were, he received in the Baltimore Convention of 1844, one hundred and twenty-three votes, and but for the compromise on Mr. Polk, would have received the nomination on that occasion.

On the 4th of March, 1845, Gen. Cass took his seat in the United States Senate, as Senator from Michigan. His course and action since that time are well known to the American people. One of the leading spirits of that distinguished body, prominent as an advocate and supporter of all the great measures of the Democratic party—of the Independent Treasury, the tariff of 1846, the vigorous prosecution of the Mexican war—in every instance he has been found on the side of his country and in the defence of its honor.

NAPOLEON'S PROPHECY.

Since the French Republic has been proclaimed, many have recorded these words: "Before fifty years Europe will be Republican or Cossack." It is said however that this was only a part of the prophecy, and that M. de Las-Casas has not made public the whole of Napoleon's predictions. A foreign paper from which we translate, assures us of the authenticity of the following reflections which the Emperor added to his predictions, after having enumerated the causes which had led to the fall of the elder branch of the Bourbons:

"Then, if my son lives, he will be called to the throne by the acclamation of the people. If he dies, France will become a Republic; for no other hand will dare to seize a sceptre that it cannot maintain.

The Orleans Branch, although it may be popular, is too feeble; it resembles the other branch of the Bourbons, and it will have the same fate, unless the members of it prefer to live as simple citizens, whatever changes may take place in France."

ments, then raising his hand while his dark eyes shone with the light of inspired enthusiasm, he resumed in a more animated tone:

"Let France once more become a Republic and all the other countries will follow her example: Germans, Prussians, Poles, Italians, Danes, Swedes and Russians, will unite with her in a crusade for liberty. They will arm themselves against their sovereigns, who will gladly make concessions to them in order to preserve some part even of their ancient authority; they will call themselves constitutional Kings, with a limited power. This the feudal system will receive its death-blow; like a fog in the midst of the Ocean it will disappear with the first rays of the sun of liberty. But things will not stop there; the wheel of the revolution will not cease turning at this point; its impetuosity will increase five-fold and its rapidity in proportion. When a people have recovered a part of its rights, it becomes enthusiastic by victory; and having tasted the sweets of liberty, it grows more daring, until it obtains every thing. The European states will be kept during several years in a condition of continual agitation like the elements at the moment preceding a volcanic eruption; but the lava will at last be expended, and peace will follow the convulsion.

The Bankruptcy of England will be the lava that will overwhelm the world, devouring the Kings and aristocracies, but cementing the interests of the democracy. Believe me Las-Casas, as the vines planted in the ashes which cover the foot of Etna and of Vesuvius, produce the most delicious wines, so the tree of liberty will become immovable when once firmly rooted in this Revolutionary lava, which shall have overflowed all the monarchies. How it will flourish in future centuries!—These words may seem strange to you, perhaps in my mouth; but they express, however, my sincere convictions.

I was born a Republican, but destiny and the opposition of Europe have made me an Emperor! I wait now for the future."

We offer no comments on this prophecy of the great man; a part of it is already accomplished; as to the rest, we also, "wait for the future!"—N. Y. Sunday Dispatch.

THE BOND OF THE HOUSE.—The English term "husband" is derived from the Anglo Saxon word *hus* and *band*, which signify the "bond of the house;" and it was anciently spelt "house-bond;" and continued to be spelt thus in some editions of the English Bible after the introduction of the art of printing. A husband, then, is a house-bond—the bond of a house—that which engirdles the family into the union of oneness of love.

Wife, and children, and "strangers within the gates"—all their interests and their happiness are entailed in the "house-bond's" embrace, the objects of his protection, and his special care. What a fine picture is this of a husband's duty, and a family's privilege!

KEEPING FRESH BEEF.—In preserving beef, the ribs will keep longest, o. five or six days in summer; the middle of the loin next; the rump next, the round next; and the shortest of all the brisket, which will not keep longer than three days in hot weather.

TRIAL OF MITCHELL THE IRISH PATRIOT.

After reading over in the British papers, all the details of the trial, conviction and sentence of poor Mitchell, the convicted "felon"—that is, the convicted republican—of the United Irishmen, we rise up confirmed, and saddened, in our first impression, that his case affords an example of governmental tyranny and cruelty—nay, of monarchical brutality—shocking to every sense of right and justice, an insult to the age, a dishonor and humiliation to the British name. British freedom, indeed! British freedom of speech British freedom of the press! We can now understand what this sort of freedom means, in Ireland, at least. We have only to follow Mitchell to the prison-hulks of Bermuda,—to see him halled and chained among felons, in the dress, and enduring the treatment, of a felon—a galley-slave—condemned to fourteen years of this horrible punishment for words, spoken in a speech and printed in a newspaper, to understand what that "most inviolable privilege of British freedom really means.

There is no doubt that Mitchell was one of the most ultra, daring and hot-headed of all the leaders of Irish reform. He was even a republican, an open and out-and-out republican; and there was the gist of his offence. He delivered a fierce republican speech, and he reported it in his journal, the *United Irishman*; and it was the delivery and the publication which, technically, formed the body of the felony,—only made so by a recent act of Parliament, framed almost avowedly for the purpose of silencing Mitchell's press, or punishing him for his audacity in expressing republican sentiments.

There were circumstances attending the sentence of Mitchell—there were words spoken by him in Court—which cannot but strike into the hearts of Irishmen, and strike like red hot iron. When the Clerk of the Crown asked Mr. Mitchell if he had any thing to say why sentence should not be passed upon him, he answered:

"I have to say that I have been found guilty by a packed jury—by a jury of a partizan sheriff—by a jury not empanelled even according to the law of England. I have been found guilty by a packed jury obtained by a judge—a jury not empanelled by a sheriff, but by a judge."

The Grand Duke, exasperated at finding himself thus thwarted in his barbarous purpose, repeated the order the third time. A General, who happened to be present, now stepped forward and interceded for the pardon of the officer; observing that the horse was exhausted, and that the enforcement of the order would be to doom both horse and rider to a horrible death.

This humane remonstrance was not only disregarded, but was punished with the immediate arrest of the General, who had thus presumed to rebel.

The word of command was given, and horse and rider for the third time cleared the glittering bayonets.

Rendered furious by these repeated disappointments, the Grand Duke for the time—"To the left about!—Forward!" The order was obeyed, and for the fourth time the horse leapt the pyramid, and then, with the officer extricated himself from the saddle, and rose unhurt, but the horse had both of his fore legs broken.

The countenance of the officer was deadly pale, his eyes stared wildly, and his knees shook under him.

A deadly silence prevailed as he advanced to the Grand Duke, and laying his sword at his highest's feet, he thanked him in a faltering voice for the honor he had enjoyed in the Emperor's service.

"I take back your sword," said the Grand Duke, gloomily, "and are you not aware of what may be the consequence of this undutiful conduct towards me?"

The officer was sent to the guard-house.—He subsequently disappeared, and no trace of him could be discovered.

This scene took place at St. Petersburg, and the facts are proved by the evidence of credible eye-witnesses.

A TOUCH STORY.—In a small town Down East, there lived a butcher who was jack at all trades, and more particularly noted for his experiments in animal Magnetism. A half-witted fellow who lived entirely upon the charity of the town, imagining one day that he was quite ill, made application to the butcher, for a remedy to relieve him from his pains. The butcher thought he was a fit subject for experiment, and accordingly mesmerized him into a profound sleep.

He then made and incision into his stomach and took out the inward parts and washed them, after which he laid them down, and went into the house to get a needle and thread to sew up the incision. Not on returning, to his astonishment he beheld an old sow just leaving the place, having eaten them! In this dilemma, he seized a sheep, and removed its entrails to the body of the man, then closing up the orifice, he awakened the slumbering subject, who was forthwith "discharged cured."

Meeting the same individual some days after, the butcher having some curiosity as to the success of the operation, asked the chap how he got along. "Oh, first rate," says he, "only I have got such an infernal hungering for grass."

The Judges quitted the bench, and went into their chamber. The prisoner's friends, of counsel, in their forensic costume, rushed over tables and benches to bid farewell to the prisoner, who was ultimately removed. Meanwhile the Judges returned to the bench, Judge Moore first, and Baron Lefroy shortly after, and Mr. Mitchell having been conveyed through the underground passage to his cell in Newgate, the court began to resume somewhat of its ordinary appearance."

Was there not something awful in those words of the Irish Matins, and in the shout that proclaimed the readiness of the "three hundred" confederates to answer the appeal of the self-devoted martyr? Has the Persennia of the Ministry no heart wide enough to be struck by fear? To our mind, those were words of fire;—and Ireland is a powder-magazine. Those words were felt, at least, in Court; and the judges rode home in a carriage, preceded by the Sheriff and a police guard, and surrounded by a troop of lanciers. The infamy of the day was concluded by the seizure and confiscation of the office and all the property of Mitchell's paper.

THE PYRAMID OF BAYONETS.—The officers as well as sub-officers of the Russian horse-guards are subjected to the most rigorous discipline, and are required to execute on horse-back, all the manoeuvres of a theatrical equestrian.

One day an officer of the Lancer-Guard was going through his exercise before the Grand Duke. He had performed all the usual evolutions in the most satisfactory way, until, when at full gallop, he was suddenly ordered to turn—his horse proved restive, and refused to obey either bridle or spur.

The command was repeated in a thundering voice, and the officer renewed his efforts to make the horse obey it; but without effect, for the fiery animal continued to prance about in defiance of his rider; who was, nevertheless, an excellent horseman.

The rage of the Grand Duke had vented itself in furious imprecations, and all present trembled for the consequences. "Halt!" he exclaimed, and ordered a pyramid of twelve muskets, with fixed bayonets, to be erected. The order was instantly obeyed.

The officer who had by this subtlety the restiveness of his horse, was ordered to leap the pyramid—and the order was obeyed. Without an interval of delay, the officer was commanded to repeat the fearful leap, and to the amazement of all present, the noble horse and his brave rider stood in safety on the other side of the pyramid.

The Grand Duke, exasperated at finding himself thus thwarted in his barbarous purpose, repeated the order the third time. A General, who happened to be present, now stepped forward and interceded for the pardon of the officer; observing that the horse was exhausted, and that the enforcement of the order would be to doom both horse and rider to a horrible death.

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ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL.

This important work, connecting Lake Michigan at Chicago with the Illinois river at La Salle, was commenced in the year 1836, but, owing to a deficiency of funds, was discontinued in 1842. In August of 1845, most of the holders of Illinois Canal bonds, having agreed, under the large encouragement held out by the State, to furnish the necessary sum, the work was again resumed, and prosecuted until its completion in April of the present year, at a cost of about \$6,500,000.

It is a work of the first class, and both in point of capacity and in the character of its workmanship, will bear advantageous comparison with any Canal of equal length in the U. States. It is 60 feet wide at the surface, 36 at the bottom, and 6 feet deep. The locks are 17 in number, and of the same size as those of the "enlarged Erie"—designed for boats carrying from 100 to 120 tons. The locks, dams, piers and abutments of the aqueducts and bridges are of the best description of hammered masonry.

The bridges over the Canal, of which there are some 25 or 30, are of the kind known in New England as "Home's patent," having spans of 70 feet and upwards, and elevated ten feet above the deck of the boats. The trunks of the aqueducts are supported by trussed frames of oak, constructed upon the same principle as the bridges. The water is supplied from six different sources, the principal one being the Calumet River, from which the water is conducted by a navigable feeder, 17 miles in length.

In addition to these sources of supply, there are two powerful pumping engines, driven by steam to raise water directly from the lake into the basin connected with the summit level, in case the supply from the feeder should become inadequate for a maximum trade on the canal in a season of drought. They are of 160 horse power, provided with six large boilers each, and calculated to raise water to a height of 7 to 9 feet, according as the height of the water in the lake fluctuates. One of them drives four lifting pumps, 54 inches in diameter and six feet stroke; while the other given motion to an immense wheel, called a "water wheel," which, provided with 16 large buckets,

can be filled in three minutes by either the four pumps or the wheel. A circumstance rather incidental is, that the water raised by these means will have a fall of 60 feet in a distance of eight miles, and be distributed at four different locks, which, in a country where water power is scarce, and where it is not unusual for people to haul their grain 20 or 40 miles to mill, is a matter of considerable importance.

The inexhaustible coal beds in Illinois,—more than in the entire island of Great Britain, as remarked by Mr. Lyell in his *Geology of America*, will doubtless furnish one of the great articles of trade on this canal. The steamboats prefer it, at \$2.50 per ton, to two cords of wood at the same price, because it requires much less room; is handled with less labor, and generates as much steam.—Lumber, corn, pork and beef, will also become great articles of trade, and all the staple productions of the country on the Illinois and Upper Mississippi will find their way through this canal.

Freight boats are now running on the canal continually, and the business is increasing.—There are two daily lines of packet boats already established, leaving each end of the line morning and evening, carrying from one to one hundred passengers each, and making the passage in about twenty hours. It furnishes an expeditious and comfortable route from the Mississippi to the lake, and one which will probably soon become a very great thoroughfare.

MILWAUKEE TRAINING.—The Brigade Inspector of Chester, was invited on training day by some of his soldiers, to visit the jail, accompanied by his staff officers. They did so, and were induced to look at an unoccupied room, to see how it would answer for a military school. While in the room, some wag turned the key upon the officials, and they were kept in "duress vile" until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. When they were released, the "nation's bulwark" had returned to their homes, and the "pomp and circumstance of glorious war," which was to have astonished the natives, was postponed to a more convenient season.

INCONVENIENT ETIQUETTE.—At Boni the etiquette of the court proves how despot it has become. When Patamakoo sits, all sit; when he rises, all rise. So far, things are within reasonable bounds; but should he ride, and fall from his horse, all about him must fall from their horses likewise. If he bathe, all must bathe too; and those passing go into the water in the dress, good or bad, they may chance to have on.—Capt. Mindy's *Borneo and Celebes*.

RECIPE FOR PRESERVING TOMATOES.—In answer to the inquiry in the April number of the Cultivator as to the best method of preserving the tomatoe; I subjoin the following receipt, which I have tried and found perfectly successful:

Prepare the Tomatoes as for cooking (with out seasoning, &c.) boil them 1 hour, then put them in small stone jars, cork and seal the jars for 2 hours take them out and seal them air-tight; when opened, season, &c. and cook for half an hour. A SUBSCRIBER IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Melt a little isinglass in spirits of wine adding a fifth part of water, and using a gentle heat; when perfectly melted and mixed, it will form a transparent glue, which will unite glass so fast that the fracture will be hardly perceived.

Men do not often give away two hundred thousand dollars, first by way of a fancy bot, if we may credit a Boston paper, a gentleman there has just done that wonderful thing!

It seems that not many months since, a lady who resided in Providence, encountered in the railroad cars, an old gentleman, who seemed to regard her with an air of unusual interest. Finally, assuming the privilege of age, he ventured to accost her and they entered into conversation. Before parting, he begged permission to call on her at her house. His deferential manner, his advanced age, and his frank expression of interest, though a stranger, in her welfare were so many pleas in his favor, and she replied to his request, that she would be very glad to see him and did not doubt that her husband would also be.

"What is your address?" She gave it, and they parted.

He called on her the next day, had an interview with her, in the presence of her husband, and asked the lady's permission to send her his miniature. She turned to her "lord and master," who at once acquiesced in the stranger's proposal. Not many days afterwards the miniature was sent—an admirable work of art, set round with costly diamonds, and accompanied with a bracelet of great value.—Husband and wife were astonished, as may be supposed. Some weeks elapsed before they heard again from the stranger.

A short time since he called, and the interview was to this effect.

"Have you an objection to moving to N. York?" he asked.

"None at all, if you could better our situation."

"What is your present income, Mr. T?"

A very moderate sum was named. "Hump I have a house in New York for which I want occupants. I sail for Europe next week and you shall come and take possession."

"You are very kind, my venerable friend," said Mr. T., "but we are very comfortable here; I don't know that I could afford to enter into the arrangement you propose."

"I will live, and I will at once make over to you the sum of \$200,000."

"If they half suspected they were dealing with a fugitive from some insane asylum. But there was no insanity about it. The offer was made in good faith,—was accepted—and has been redeemed to the letter.—Mr. and Mrs. T. have removed to New York, and taken possession of a fine home in — street.

Their benefactor has gone to Europe. He will probably make his newly made friends the heirs of his large wealth. Mrs. T. was we learn, formerly an instructress in one of the public schools of a neighboring city. The character of the parties and the history of the affair thus far preclude the imputation of any improper motive. The cause of the old gentleman's conduct is as much a mystery to the lady herself as to her friends. He seems to have taken a whim, and to have carried it out. So much only is apparent. But time may throw more light upon the affair.

THE CAT'S TAIL AND THE AUNT HOLE.—The North Carolina *Argus* tells the following capital story, for which it is indebted to the stump speech of a Virginia member of Congress. We have read nothing that has called our exultatory muscles more violently into play, for a long while:

The proprietor of a tan yard adjacent to a certain town in Virginia, concluded to build a stand, or a sort of store, on one of the main streets, for the purpose of vending his leather, buying raw hides, and the like. After completing his building, he began to consider what sort of a sign it would be best to put up for the purpose of attracting attention to his new establishment; and for days and weeks he was sorely puzzled on this subject. Several devices were adopted, and on further consideration, rejected. At last a happy idea struck him. He bored an auger hole through the door-post and stuck a cat's tail into it, with the bushy end flouting out. After a while he noticed a grave looking personage standing near the door, with his spectacles, gazing intently on the sign. And there he continued to stand, gazing and gazing until the curiosity of the tanner was greatly excited in turn. He stepped out and addressed the individual:

"Good morning," said he.

"Morning," said the other without moving his eyes from the sign.

"You want to buy leather?" said the tano keeper.